IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 5, amend claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 11, and 13, and add new claims 14-26 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A fluorescent lamp comprising:

a glass tube both ends of which are sealed airtight and a discharge medium filled in the inside;

a fluorescent substance layer formed on the inner wall surface of said glass tube;

an inner electrode arranged at ~~one~~ a single end in ~~this~~ said glass tube and given a potential; and

an outer electrode comprising a conductor spirally wound around said glass tube between its both ends along an axis of said tube and given a different potential than ~~that~~ is given said inner electrode.

2. (Currently Amended) A fluorescence lamp according to claim 1, wherein the discharge medium is Xe gas or a mixture of Xe gas and at least one other rare gas.

3. (Original) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 2, wherein an outer surface of said outer electrode is covered by a translucent resin film layer jointly with said glass tube, thereby said outer electrode is fixed to the outer surface of said glass tube in one united body.

4. (Currently Amended) A fluorescent lamp comprising:

~~a~~ an airtight glass tube having a fluorescent substance film formed at an inner surface and having sealing portions formed at both ends thereof so that a discharge medium is filled inside

the glass tube; a first feeding lead wire penetrating one of said sealing portions of said glass tube ~~airtight~~,

an inner electrode connected to an end of said first feeding lead wire extended into said glass tube;

a second feeding lead wire one end of which is buried in the other sealing portion of said glass tube, and the other end is lead out of said glass tube; and

an outer electrode comprising a conductor spirally wound around an outer surface of said glass tube along an axis of said tube with an end of the conductor being electrically connected and mechanically fixed to said second feeding lead wire,

wherein said end of the second feeding lead wire buried in the other sealing portion of the glass tube is not exposed to the inside of said glass tube.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Currently Amended) A fluorescent lamp according to claim ~~5~~ 4, wherein said end of the conductor composing the outer electrode is wound around the second feeding lead wire.

7. (Currently Amended) A fluorescent lamp according to claim ~~5~~ 4, wherein said end of the conductor composing the outer electrode is wound around the second feeding lead wire in the same direction as the winding direction of the conductor composing the outer electrode on the outer surface of the glass tube.

8. (Original) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 7, wherein the outer surface of the glass tube including the outer electrode is covered with a translucent resin film layer which fixes

thereto the outer electrode to form an integral body.

9. (Original) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 8, wherein said end of the second feeding lead wire buried in the other sealing portion of the glass tube has an engaging part at its end portion.

10. (Previously Presented) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 8, wherein the discharge medium is xenon-gas or a mixture of xenon-gas and at least one other rare gas.

11. (Currently Amended) A fluorescent lamp comprising:

a glass tube with a sealing portion formed at both ends;

a fluorescent substance film formed on an inner surface of said glass tube;

a discharge medium including rare gas filled in said glass tube;

a first feeding lead wire sealed airtight and penetrating one of said sealing portions of the glass tube;

an inner electrode provided at an end of said first feeding lead wire;

a second feeding lead wire one end of which is buried in the other sealing portion of the glass tube and the other end of which is ~~lead~~ led out from the glass tube, the second feeding lead wire not being exposed to the discharge medium;

a locating portion formed on an outer surface of the glass tube; and

an outer electrode that is composed of a conductor and is guided by said locating portion, is spirally wound around the outer surface of the glass tube in the almost overall length of an axial direction of the tube and one end of the conductor is connected and fixed to the second feeding

lead wire.

12. (Original) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 11, wherein the outer surface of the glass tube including said outer electrode is covered by a translucent resin film layer, thereby said outer electrode is fixed to the outer surface of the glass tube to form an integral body.

13. (Currently Amended) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 12, wherein the discharge medium is xenon-gas or a mixture of xenon-gas and at least one other rare gas.

14. (New) A fluorescent lamp, comprising:

an elongated sealed tube containing a gas discharge medium, a fluorescent layer being disposed on an inner surface of the tube;

an inner electrode disposed along a portion of the tube and exposed to the discharge medium;

an outer electrode disposed at least partially around the tube; and

an engaging member at least partially buried in the other end of the tube and mechanically coupled to the outer electrode,

the fluorescent lamp configured such that a voltage applied across the inner and outer electrodes causes a current to pass between the inner and outer electrodes, thereby causing the fluorescent layer to fluoresce.

15. (New) The fluorescent lamp of claim 14, wherein the engaging member is conductive, is electrically coupled to the outer electrode, and is not exposed to the discharge medium.

16. (New) The fluorescent lamp of claim 14, wherein the engaging member is conductive and is electrically coupled to the outer electrode, and wherein a current does not flow between the inner electrode and the engaging member during lamp operation.

17. (New) The fluorescent lamp of claim 14, wherein the discharge medium is mainly composed of xenon gas.

18. (New) The fluorescent lamp of claim 14, wherein the outer electrode is spirally wound.

19. (New) The fluorescent lamp of claim 14, wherein the inner electrode within the tube is substantially shorter than a length of the tube.

20. (New) The fluorescent lamp of claim 14, wherein at least a portion of the engaging member that is buried in the other end of the tube includes a rough surface.

21. (New) The fluorescent lamp of claim 14, wherein at least a portion of the engaging member that is buried in the other end of the tube includes a flat portion.

22. (New) The fluorescent lamp of claim 14, wherein at least a portion of the engaging member that is buried in the other end of the tube includes a bent portion.

23. (New) The fluorescent lamp of claim 14, wherein at least a portion of the engaging member that is buried in the other end of the tube includes a concave-convex portion.

24. (New) The fluorescent lamp of claim 14, wherein the outer electrode extends along a length of the tube that is greater than a length that the inner electrode extends into the tube.

25. (New) A lamp, comprising:

a sealed tube containing a discharge medium;

an inner electrode extending only partially through an inside of the tube; and

an outer electrode wound at least partially around the tube, the outer electrode being wound at a varying winding pitch depending upon a distance between the outer electrode and the inner electrode.

26. (New) The lamp of claim 25, wherein the winding pitch narrows as the distance between the outer electrode and the inner electrode increases.